Revenue Copyists in the State.

236. *MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) how many copyists there are in the State;

(*b*) their average monthly income;

(*c*) why they are not absorbed in the permanent establishment; and

(*d*) when the copyists of the Magistrates' Courts were absorbed in the permanent establishment?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): (*a*) and (*b*) The member is referred to the answer to interpellation No. 80 at the last meeting of the Assembly.

(*c*) Because their work is neither regular nor continuous and varies from taluk to taluk, for which the present system of payment of fees for work done is the best fitted and most advantageous.

(*d*) 1-4-1090.

Bridge across the Alleppey-Shertala Canal.

237. *MR. K. M. KRISHNAN (*Ambalapuzha II*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have felt the necessity of a bridge across the Alleppey-Shertala canal in Kommady;

(*b*) whether they are aware that there was a bridge across the Polathodu in Kommady before the Polathodu was converted into a portion of the present Alleppey-Shertala canal;

(*c*) whether they are aware that accidents take place when people try to cross the flooded canal in *vallam* during rainy seasons;

(*d*) whether they are aware that the public, especially labourers, school-going children and women, are put to great trouble during rainy seasons for want of a bridge across the canal;

(*e*) what is the total amount they have incurred till now on account of the expense in connection with the ferry here;

(*f*) what is the length of the canal that is now in existence from Alleppey; and

(*g*) whether there is any bridge over the canal now?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) Yes, some inconvenience.

(*e*) Rs 360.

(*f*) 3 1/8 miles.

(*g*) No, except one at its starting point from the Wadai Canal.

MR. K. M. KRISHNAN (*Ambalapuzha II*): May I know whether the Chief Engineer or anybody from his department has gone and inspected the place during the rainy season when the canal is flooded?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): I cannot say that. Perhaps it might interest the member to know that an estimate for rebuilding the bridge has been sent to Government.

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